## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01536 011656Z ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 DHA-02 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 /045 W

R 011540Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5786 INFO USMISSION GENEVA USUN NEW YORK 1313

CONFIDENTIAL LUSAKA 1536

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGY: SREF, RH, ZA, UNHCR

SUBJ: UNHCR ASSISTANCE TO EDUCATION OF RHODESIAN REFUGEES

REF: (A) LUSAKA 1276; (B) LUSAKA 1507 NOTAL

1. IN A MAY 31 PRESS CONFERENCE IN LUSAKA JOSHUA NKOMO ANNOUNCED THAT THE GRZ HAS MADE AVAILABLE LAND TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ON WHICH TO BUILD A SCHOOL FOR THE "THOUSANDS" OF YOUNG RHODESIAN CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN COMING OUT OF RHODESIA (REFTEL B). IN HIS REMARKS NKOMO ALSO MENTIONED THAT NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN AFRICA AND ABROAD HAVE EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO HELP EDUCATE YOUNG ZIMBABWEANS.

- 2. LOCAL UNHCR REP. TOLD EMBOFF MAY 31 THAT UNHCR HEAD-QUARTERS HAS PROVIDED U.S. \$200,000 FOR THE PROJECT IN RESPONSE TO ZAPU'S EARLIER REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE (REFTEL A). NKOMO WAS TOLD OF THIS UNHCR ASSISTANCE BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES WHEN THEY MET IN GENEVA DURING NKOMO'S RECENT EUROPEAN TOUR.
- 3. JUST BACK FROM A VISIT TO GENEVA, THE UNHCR REP. SAID CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01536 011656Z

THAT THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES FAVORED TEMPORARY FACILITIES FOR THE ZIMBABWEAN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT AND THAT DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE HELD WITH ZAPU ABOUT THE LOCATION AND TYPE OF FACILITIES THE UNHCR WOULD HELP TO PROVIDE. THE UNHCR REP. INDICATED THAT THE CURRENT UNHCR CONTRIBUTION WAS AN INITIAL ONE AND ADDITIONAL SUPPORT MOST LIKELY WOULD BE FORTHCOMING WHEN THE PROJECT TOOK SHAPE.

COMMENT: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PREFERENCE FOR TEMPORARY FACILITIES FOR THE ZIMBABWEAN STUDENTS IS A DIRECT ACKNOWLEDGE-MENT OF THE POLITICAL COMPLEXITY OF ASSISTING LIBERATION GROUPS. FOR THE UNHCR TO BECOME INVOLVED IN A ZIMBABWEAN EDUCATION PROJECT IN A WAY SUGGESTING THAT IT WERE ANYTHING BUT TEMPORARY COULD LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION OPZN TO CHARGES OF BEING PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECTS OF THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE.

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## Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
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Subject: UNHCR ASSISTANCE TO EDUCATION OF RHODESIAN REFUGEES IN ZAMBIA

TAGS: SREF, RH, ZA, UNHCR

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